(c) Yes, Sir.

Clearance to Export Horse shoe Crab

1890. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any application for clearance to export horse shoe crab found at Orissa coast;

(b) whether Government are aware that the US Drug administration and UK pharmacopoeis are regularly using these crabs for detecting bacterial andotoxins; and

(c) whether demand of such crabs, which are found in abundance, could be developed in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, NIO in cooperation with the Director of Fisheries, Orissa is conducting research work on the horse shoe crab.

(c) Commercial enquiries have not been received in this regard.

अरंडी के तेल का निर्यात

1891. श्री विठ्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में अरंडी के तेल के प्रचुर उत्पादन के बावजूद सरकार ने इसके निर्यात हेतु अभी तक कोई उपाय नहीं किये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा अरंडी के तेल को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजारों में बेचने हेतु क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच भी है कि राष्ट्रीय डेयरी विकास बोर्ड (एन०डी०डी०बी०) जैसी संस्थाओं ने सरकार का ध्यान इस तथ्य की ओर दिलाया है कि कतिपय निर्यातक अरंडी के तेल में खाद्य तेलों की मिलावट करके इसका निर्यात करते हैं जिसके परिणामस्वरूप भारत की छवि बिगड़ रही है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं। तथ्य यह है कि भारत अरंडी के तेल का निर्यात करने वाला विश्व का अग्रणी देश है और भारत से अरंडी के तेल का निर्यात लगातार बढ़ रहा है।

(ग) सरकार को ऐसी कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Surrey Conducted by CII

1892. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported survey con ducted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on India's foreign trade as reported in Hindustan Times dated 16th February, 1994 ;

(b) If so, whether it is a fact that as compared to the World exports growth, the export growth rate in India has lagged far behind i.e. from 0.65 per cent in 1970 to 0.52 per cent in 1990 and during 1980-81 to 1992-93 period India's Import grew at only 2.45 per cent in dollar terms;

(c) if so, what is at present the level of India's trade (Commodity-wise) with countries of Asia and Oceania, Europe, America and ESCAP countries indicating percentage to which country the trade is the lowest and to which parte of the World is the highest; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to increase Ihdla's growth rate of exports and to bring down

the country's import bill which grew by 11.9 per cent in 1992-93 over 1991-92 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India's share in world exports was *0.6% during 1970. The share in 1990 is estimated at 0.5%*. As regards imports, the annual average increase during the period from 1980-81 to 1992-93 works out at 3.2%.

Source; Economic Survey 1993-94.

(c) The information called for is voluminous. The date can be accessed in the latest issue of Foreign Trade Statistics of India (November 1993) brought out by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. The publication is available in the Lok Sabha Library.

(d) In order to increase exports, Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include promotion of export linked imports, reduction of import-licensing, strengthening of export incen-tives removal of procedural irritants through simplification of policy and procedures and pruning of negative list of exports. In the Budget for 1994-95 these measures have been further re-inforced by introduction of convertibility of rupee on the current account, reduction in customs and excise duties and rationalisation of their structure. Also exporters have been allowed to retain a higher percentage (from 15% to 20%) of their foreign exchange earnings to enable them to avoid conversion cost for making payments for imports. In the case of 100% export oriented units and units in Export Processing Zones, Electronic Hardware Technology Parks and Software Technology Parks, the limit of retention of foreign exchange earnings has been enhanced to 50%.

Difficulties faced by Indian Buafoessmen in Moscow

1893. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheher it is a fact that Indian businessmen in Moscow are facing tremendous difficulties due to lack of shipping and banking facilities, fluctuation in the value of rouble and the high interest rate ; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is the present position of trade between India and Russia ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Difficulties due to inadequate shipping and banking facilities, fluctuation in the value of the Rouble, and high interest rates in Russia do constitute factors impeding the growth of trade and economic cooperation between India and Russia.

(b) The aforementioned falctors are attributable to the far-reaching developments in recent years in the former USSR/ Russia. Efforts are afoot to contain the situation. India-Russia trade is already showing clear signs of revival. The latest available present position of Indi"s trade with Russia is as below :—

(Value in Rs. crores)

	Exports	Imports	Total
1993-94 (Apr.—Nov.)	1113.26	481.59	1594.85

(Source . DGd&S

Export of Poultry Products

1894. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be plessed to state :

(a) the constraints in the export of poultry products ;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to remove these constraints;

(c) the incentives proposed by Government to enable the country to compete with other countries in the export of poultry products ; and

(d) the export of poultry products in the years 1992-93 and 1993-94, upto 31st December, 1993, or upto the date for which the figure is available ?